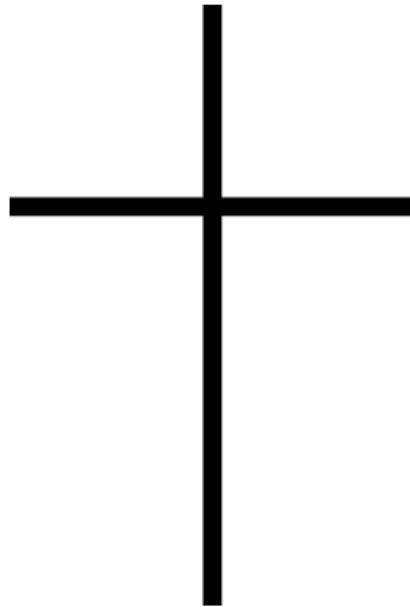




Croydon
Minster



Funeral
of
Martin How MBE
3 April 1931 – 26 July 2022

Tuesday 23rd August 2022 at 11.30am

The Funeral Service

Martin's body was received into the Minster last night. Prayers were said and the Eucharist offered.

A Bible was placed on the coffin, with these words

Lord Jesus Christ,

your living and imperishable word brings us to new birth.

Your eternal promises to us and to *Martin* are proclaimed in the Bible.

A cross was placed on the coffin, with these words

Lord Jesus Christ,

for love of *Martin* and each one of us

you bore our sins on the cross.

The Service will be conducted by Revd Canon Dr Andrew Bishop, Priest-in-Charge, Croydon Minster

Music

The Minster organ is played by Jonathan Vaughn, Associate Director of Music, Christ Church, Greenwich, Connecticut (CPC Organ Scholar 1994-1999), and the choir is conducted by Justin Miller, Director of Music, Croydon Minster

The following music is played before the Service:

Paeon *Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)*

Prelude and Fugue in A minor BWV 543 *J S Bach 1685-1750*

Romance *Martin How*

Tranquilly 'For the Little Organ Book' *C Hubert H Parry (1848-1918)*

(during which the choir enters the stalls. The congregation is asked to remain seated)

INTROIT

Please remain seated

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray; To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day.

Text: St Richard of Chichester (1197-1253)

Music: Martin How

OPENING HYMN

All stand

Come down, O Love divine,
Seek thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn
Till earthly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be,
And lowliness become my inner clothing;
True lowliness of heart
Which takes the humbler part,
And o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong
With which the soul will long
Shall far surpass the power of human telling;
For none can guess its grace
Till we become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling.

Text: Bianco da Siena (d. 1434) Tr R F Littledale (1833-1890)

Music: R Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Descant: Richard Pinel (b. 1984)

INTRODUCTION

Remain standing as the priest says

We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,
who died and was raised
to the glory of God the Father.
Grace and mercy be with you.

All **And also with you.**

The priest continues

We have come here today
to remember before God our brother *Martin*
to give thanks for *his* life;
to commend *him* to God
our merciful redeemer and judge;
to commit *his* body to be cremated
and to comfort one another in our grief.

Silence is kept

God of all consolation,
your Son Jesus Christ was moved to tears
at the grave of Lazarus his friend.
Look with compassion on your children in their loss;
give to troubled hearts the light of hope
and strengthen in us the gift of faith,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

As children of a loving heavenly Father,
let us ask his forgiveness,
for he is gentle and full of compassion.

All kneel, or sit, as silence is kept.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

The priest says

May God our Father forgive us our sins
and bring us to the eternal joy of his kingdom,
where dust and ashes have no dominion.

All **Amen.**

COLLECT

Let us pray.

Merciful Father,
hear our prayers and comfort us;
renew our trust in your Son,
whom you raised from the dead;
strengthen our faith that *Martin* and all
who have died in the love of Christ
will share in his resurrection;
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah.

You will say on that day:
I will give thanks to you, O Lord,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
and you comforted me.

Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you
will say on that day:
Give thanks to the Lord,
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.
Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 12

This is the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God**

PSALM

Sung by the choir

The Lord is my shepherd : therefore can I lack nothing. He shall
feed me in a green pasture : and lead me forth beside the waters of
comfort. He shall convert my soul : and bring me forth in the paths
of righteousness, for his Name's sake. Yea, though I walk through
the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil : for thou art
with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me : thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full. Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life : and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Psalm 23

Chant: C Hylton Stewart (1884-1932)

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1.3-9

This is the word of the Lord

All **Thanks be to God**

HYMN

All stand

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
 Forgive our foolish ways!
Re-clothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives thy service find,
 In deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
 Beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord,
Let us, like them without a word
 Rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
 O calm of hills above,
Where Jesus knelt to share with thee
The silence of eternity,
 Interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
 Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
 The beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire
 They coolness and thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
Speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
 O still small voice of calm!

Text: John Whittier (1807-1892)

Music: C Hubert H Parry (1848-1918)

HOMILY

All sit

The Revd Canon Dr Andrew Bishop, Priest-in-Charge

ANTHEM

How lovely are Thy dwellings fair, O Lord of Hosts.
My soul ever longeth and fainteth sore
for the blest courts of the Lord:
My heart and flesh do cry to the living God.
O blest are they that in Thy house are dwelling:
They ever praise Thee, O Lord, for evermore.

*Text: from the Luther Bible
Music: Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)*

PRAYERS

All kneel or sit

God of mercy, Lord of life,
you have made us in your image
to reflect your truth and light:
we give you thanks for *Martin*
for the grace and mercy *he* received from you,
for all that was good in *his* life,
for the memories we treasure today.
Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

You promised eternal life to those who believe.
Remember for good this your servant *Martin*
as we also remember *him*.
Bring all who rest in Christ

into the fullness of your kingdom
where sins have been forgiven
and death is no more.

Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

Your mighty power brings joy out of grief and life out of death.

Look in mercy on all who mourn.

Give them patient faith in times of darkness.

Strengthen them with the knowledge of your love.

Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

You are tender towards your children

and your mercy is over all your works.

Heal any memories of hurt and failure.

Give us the wisdom and grace to use aright

the time that is left to us here on earth,

to turn to Christ and follow in his steps

in the way that leads to everlasting life.

Lord, in your mercy

All **hear our prayer.**

All **God of mercy,
entrusting into your hands
all that you have made
and rejoicing in our communion
with all your faithful people,
we make our prayers through
Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.**

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father,
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

HYMN

The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
The darkness falls at thy behest;
To thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank thee that thy Church, unsleeping,
While earth rolls onward into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping,
And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island
The dawn leads on another day,
The voice of prayer is never silent,
Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,
And hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord; thy throne shall never,
Like earth's proud empires, pass away:
Thy kingdom stands, and grows forever,
Till all thy creatures own thy sway.

Text: John Ellerton (1826-1893)
Music Clement Scholefield (1839-1904)
Descant: Martin How

COMMENDATION AND FAREWELL

All remain standing as the priest stands by the coffin and says

Let us commend *Martin* to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

The priest sprinkles the coffin with Holy Water, censes it and then says

God our creator and redeemer,
by your power Christ conquered death
and entered into glory.
Confident of his victory and claiming his promises,
we entrust *Martin* to your mercy
in the name of Jesus our Lord,
who died and is alive and reigns with you,
now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

NUNC DIMITTIS

Please remain standing

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace : according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation; Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles : and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son : and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

Text: Luke 2.29-32

Music: George Dyson (1883-1964)

THE 'PROFICISCERE'

Please remain standing

Martin

Go forth upon thy journey from this world, O Christian soul.
Go in the name of God the Father Almighty who created thee,
In the name of Jesus Christ, his Son, who suffered for thee,
In the name of the Holy Ghost who strengthened thee.
In communion with the blessed saints and accompanied by angels
and archangels and all the armies of the Heavenly Host,
May thy portion this day be peace.
And thy dwelling in the heavenly Jerusalem.

All **Amen.**

Thou didst support him all the long, hot day,
to the lengthening of the shadows and the setting sun;
Now is the fever of life over; the busy world is hushed;
and his work is done.

Grant him, Lord, at the ending of his quest, all journeyings past,
A safe lodging and a holy rest
And peace at last.

All **Amen**

BLESSING

May Christ the good shepherd
enfold you with love,
fill you with peace,
and lead you in hope,
to the end of your days;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the + Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL MUSIC

Please sit once the coffin has passed you

Fantasia in G BWV 572 *Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)*

Martin's body is accompanied by Fr Andrew to Croydon Crematorium for cremation.

You are invited to remain in the church until the completion of the voluntary, and everyone is invited to gather for refreshments in the Church Hall.

Martin requested that donations in his memory should be made to the Minster. You may make donations by cash or card after this service, or by cheque made payable to 'PCC of St John the Baptist, Croydon'; or you can donate directly into our bank account by contacting the Minster office for details (office@croydonminster.org 020 8688 8104); or by JustGiving (www.justgiving.com/croydonparishchurch/donate) and please indicate that it is in memory of Martin. If you are a UK taxpayer please do remember to GiftAid your donation.

